



MICHIGAN LICENSED BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION[®]

Retailers dedicated to the responsible sale and service of beverage alcohol

September 6, 2005

The Honorable Tory Rocca, Chairman
House Committee on Regulatory Reform
PO Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Chairman Rocca,

On behalf of the Michigan Licensed Beverage Association I would like to express my full support of House Bill 5067 introduced by Representative Rick Jones. The MLBA and its thousands of members statewide are leaders in the hospitality industry in promoting the responsible service and consumption of beverage alcohol.

House Bill 5067 would prohibit the sale, use and possession of Alcohol Without Liquid (AWOL) machines in Michigan. Such devices create a mist out of liquor which is then mixed with oxygen and inhaled. The MLBA applauds Representative Jones on his proactive measures to ban AWOL machines in Michigan before they reach the market.

AWOL machines first gained popularity in European "Oxygen" bars, and are now being marketed in the United States. Users inhale alcohol mist causing it to be absorbed through the lungs, rather than drinking alcohol which is absorbed primarily in the stomach and small intestine. The result is that alcohol is delivered more rapidly into the bloodstream and brain, causing almost immediate intoxication.

Being a strong proponent of the responsible service and consumption of beverage alcohol, the MLBA urges Legislators to take action on this important piece of legislation and support House Bill 5067. Over the past two decades, the MLBA has been a champion in providing educational resources and programs to those in the hospitality industry.

We look forward to working with you in the future to develop public policy that promotes the responsible service and consumption of beverage alcohol. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Cathy Pavick, Executive Director of the MLBA or myself at 517-374-9611.

Sincerely,

Lance Binoniemi
Director of Government Affairs

Cc: Members of the Committee on Regulatory Reform



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920 N. FAIRVIEW, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912
(517) 374-9611 (800) 292-2896 FAX (517) 374-1165
Voice Mail (877) 292-2896 Web Site: <http://www.mlba.org>

